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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child" contained in document A/C.3/47/L.43

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. By operative paragraphs 10, 11 and 12 of draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.43 the General Assembly would:

> "10. Approve the recommendation contained in the resolution adopted by consensus by the meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 11 November 1992, in which the States parties reaffirmed the recommendations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the organization of the future work of the Committee on the basis of two sessions per year, each of up to three weeks' duration, as may be decided by the Committee in the light of its anticipated workload, and the establishment of a pre-sessional working group that would meet for one week approximately two months in advance of each session for a preliminary review of reports from States parties;
>
> "11. Authorize the Secretary-General to implement this recommendation;
>
> "12. Request the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities, within the overall existing budget framework, for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child".

B. Relationship of requests to the approved programme of work

2. The requests contained in operative paragraphs 10, 11 and 12 of draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.43 relate to subprogramme 1, Implementation of international instruments and procedures of programme 35, Promotion and protection of human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 1/ and to activities programmed under subprogramme 1 of section 28, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 2/

C. Additional requirements at full cost

3. With regard to operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution on the organization of the future work of the Committee, it should be recalled that, under the terms of the Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/25, the Committee on the Rights of the Child meets annually for a period of three weeks and that resources for one meeting in 1992 and one in 1993 have been provided in the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. However, the two pre-sessional working groups and the additional session of the Committee have not been programmed in the 1992-1993 programme budget. They would, thus, entail additional requirements as summarized below:

		(at 1993 rates) $
(a)	Travel and subsistence costs	
(i)	10 members of the Committee for a second session of up to three weeks	75 000
(ii)	5 members participating in the two pre-sessional working groups ($17,900 each)	35 800
	Total	110 800
(b)	Conference-servicing costs	
(i)	Second session of three weeks in 1993	892 900
	(Interpretation, 30 meetings: A, C, E, F, R, S)	
	(Pre-session documentation: 200 pages: A, C, E, F, R, S)	
	(In-session documentation: 20 pages: A, C, E, F, R, S)	

		(at 1993 rates) $
	(Post-session documentation: 20 pages: A, C, E, F, R, S)	
	(Summary records: 30 meetings: A, C, E, F, R, S)	
(ii)	Two pre-sessional working groups in 1993	114 000
	(Interpretation, 10 meetings each: A, C, E, F, R, S)	
	Total	1 006 900

D. Potential for absorption

Travel and subsistence costs

4. It should be recalled that, in the expectation that the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families would enter into force in 1993, the General Assembly approved, under section 28 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, an amount of $66,000 for travel and related costs for the initial 10 members of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. However, owing to the lower than anticipated number of ratifications, the Convention is not expected to enter into force in 1993 and therefore the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families will not be meeting in that year. It is therefore proposed to redeploy this amount in order partially to finance the proposed additional meetings of the two pre-sessional working groups and of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. Since this redeployment would still leave a shortfall of $44,800 ($110,000-$66,000), it is proposed to provide for this shortfall in the context of the revised estimates under section 28, Human rights, which will be submitted to the General Assembly during the course of this session.

5. In connection with operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, which would request the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities, within the overall existing budget framework, for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee, no additional staff resources are envisaged beyond what was originally approved by the General Assembly, that is, one P-4, one P-2 and one GS by its resolution 45/248 B VI of 21 December 1990.

Conference-servicing costs

6. The estimates of conference-servicing costs of $1,006,900 for 1993 are based on the theoretical assumption that no part of the conference-servicing

requirements would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity under section 41, Administration and management, of the programme budget, and that additional resources would be required for temporary assistance for meetings. However, as indicated in the programme budget, the 1992-1993 level of resources for temporary assistance for meetings was estimated on the basis of previous experience to accommodate not only meetings known at the time of budget preparation but also for meetings that would be authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences in the biennium 1992-1993 was consistent with the pattern of meetings in past years. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required under the new section 41, Administration and management, of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

E. Summary of additional requirements

7. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.43, it is estimated that an additional appropriation amounting to $44,800 would be required. However, this request will be formally submitted in the revised estimates that will be presented to the General Assembly under section 28, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. II, as amended by document A/47/6.

2/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. II.